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Western Theological Seminary

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Abstract

The collection includes consistory and congregation meeting minutes, membership records, mission records, and a dedication service program of Hamilton Reformed Church. Also includes minutes of the American Reformed Church and documents concerning the merging of the two churches in 1944.

Accession No.: W90-1027
Provenance: Hamilton Reformed Church
Donor: Custody Agreement
Processed by: Laura M. Bachelder, November 1990

History

Hamilton Reformed Church in Hamilton, Michigan, also known as the First Reformed Church of Hamilton, was established in 1870 by the Board of Domestic Missions of the Reformed Church in America. In 1873, the congregation was put in the care of the Overisel Reformed Church and the church property was used by area Methodists due to the small number of people with a Reformed background. In 1887, Hamilton Reformed Church was reorganized and hosted visiting pastors until 1889 when Rev. A. H. Strabbing was called to the church. After a fire destroyed the American Reformed Church of Hamilton in 1944, the congregation of the First Reformed Church merged with that of the American Reformed Church. A new building was constructed in 1950 at its current site.

Scope and Content

The collection contains the records of Hamilton Reformed Church from 1887 until 1981. Included are records of accepting or dismissing members and baptisms from 1881 through 1942. After 1942, no further records pertain to membership. The collection also includes minutes detailing activities and finances from 1889 through 1981, mission efforts from 1923 through 1962, and a few documents from the merging of Hamilton and American Reformed Church in 1944. In addition, there are records of membership, finances, and activities from American Reformed Church from 1928 until 1944.

The collection is arranged by the type of record; within each of these headings, the records are chronological.

Container List

Box 1

American Reformed Church of Hamilton
Consistory Minutes, 1928-1944 (2 volumes)
American Reformed Church and Hamilton Reformed Church Merger, 1944
First Reformed Church of Hamilton
Consistory Minutes, 1889-1930 (2 volumes)

Box 2

First Reformed Church of Hamilton
Consistory Minutes, 1930-1950 (2 volumes)

Box 3

First Reformed Church of Hamilton
Consistory Minutes, 1950-1970 (2 volumes)

Box 4

First Reformed Church of Hamilton
Consistory Minutes, 1970-1980 (1 volume)
General and Missions Account Records, 1923-1962
Hamilton Reformed Church Dedication Service Program, 1950

Box 5

First Reformed Church of Hamilton
Members and Baptisms, 1887-1942 (3 volumes)

Box 6

First Reformed Church of Hamilton
Members and Baptisms, 1887-1942 (1 volume)

Box 7 Oversized

First Reformed Church of Hamilton
Members and Baptisms, Volume 1-A, 1887-1942